

DECEMBER

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INSIDE
E.E.S. Library holds open house for parents

INSIDE
Elba Lady Tiger basketball season now underway

The Elba Clipper

Volume 106, Number 25 50 Cents Elba, Alabama Thursday, December 5, 2002 1 Section, 14 Pages Plus 2 Adv. Inserts

Annual Christmas parade fills streets of Elba



The City of Elba welcomed the holiday season last Saturday, Nov. 30, with its annual Christmas Festival activities, and as usual, the Christmas parade proved to be a delightful part of the day. The streets were filled with holiday cheer as the lighted floats and smiling participants made their way through town in what was considered to be one of the largest Christmas parades Elba has ever produced with nearly 70 entries. The attractions varied from floats and vehicles to marching bands and horses. There were even sightings of a clown and go-carts zooming through town. As shown above, the City of Elba float was very appealing with its holiday decorations and the appearance of the city's beauty queens. The queens include Miss Elba Shay Johnson, Junior Miss Elba Lyndsay Lawford, Little Miss Elba Brinley Williams and Future Little Miss Elba Sarah Bryan. To enjoy other sights from the annual Christmas Festival and Parade, please see page nine.

Alabama DOT plans new Hwy. 84 design hearing

The Alabama Department of Transportation (DOT) recently announced its plans to hold a new design public hearing for the first time in quite some time concerning the four-laning of U.S. Highway 84.

The hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, Dec. 10, between the hours of 5-7 p.m. at the New Brockton Farm Center and will concern additional lanes for U.S. Hwy. 84 from Alabama State Road 87 in Elba to Coffee

County Road 507 in New Brockton.

DOT officials have said a formal presentation will not be made; therefore, interested citizens can schedule their attendance at their convenience during the announced hours for the hearing.

Persons with disabilities who may need special assistance should contact the Alabama Department of Transportation's Division Office at (334) 670-2452.

New Brockton Council receives water board update

by Linda Hodge, Editor

New Brockton Mayor Charles Cole presented crucial news from the town's water board to council members Monday evening, Dec. 2, during the regular monthly meeting of the council.

Cole said Enterprise is buying out the Clintonville Tabernacle Water Authority, and the Town of New Brockton has a "good faith" agreement with Enterprise that it will continue to buy water from the town for 10 years up to \$3,200.

He said New Brockton would have liked to buy the water authority especially since the town invested in a water well to supply the area; however, that was not the case, and the town will now have to depend on the good faith agreement.

"Once Enterprise decides they don't want to buy water from us, we have a water well we don't need," Cole said. "Some where along the line we are going to have to change but not increase the water rates."

In regards to other department updates, Cole announced that the police department will have a lit-

te overtime now since the department only has three full time employees with four part time employees. He said the chief has promised to keep the overtime as limited as possible.

Council member Jody Stuckey announced that the recreation board has passed out sign up sheets for youth basketball, and the season should begin after the first of the year.

In regards to upcoming holidays, Cole announced the New Brockton Town Hall will be closed in observance of the Christmas holidays on Nov. 30, for Dec. 24 and 25 and will be closed in observance of the New Year's Day holiday on Dec. 31 and Jan. 1.

He added that the water board signed the good faith agreement with Enterprise on the advice of its attorney.

Cole said the water board will discuss water rates at its next working session which will be Monday evening, Dec. 16.

With the Christmas holiday approaching, Cole requesting a one-time pay raise for town employees.

In his request, the mayor asked

NOTICE

If anyone is interested in the items, please contact the Elba Department of Parks and Recreation.

Elba, Alabama 36023. For items that need pick up call 334-670-2452.

The town of New Brockton will celebrate "Christmas Around Town" with its second annual Christmas Parade on Saturday, Dec. 7, beginning at 4:30 p.m.

The Coffee County Commission will hold its regular monthly meeting Monday, Dec. 9, at 9 a.m. in the community room at the county complex in New Brockton.

U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE'S FARM SERVICE AGENCY has announced that sign-up for the Livestock Compensation Program (LCP) for cattle, sheep, goats, and buffalo producers will end on Friday, Dec. 13. The LCP is available to livestock producers in all 67 counties. Eligible livestock producers should apply for LCP benefits at the local Farm Service Agency (FSA) office by the deadline date.

The Elba Department of Parks and Recreational and the Human Resource Development Commission are in need of new or used toys, books and other items that will be used as gifts for needy families in the 2002 Operation Santa Claus campaign. Families in the surrounding area are requested at the first annual All-Star Lighting Ceremony to recognize some of their own who symbolize the small town, big heart.

The ceremony serves as the closing event of the annual Christmas Festival and once again proved to be a cherished moment as 10 Elba citizens were honored for their commitment and love for the community.

Greg Hankey served as master of ceremony for the event, and he opened by asking everyone in attendance to remember one of Elba's landmarks that has been removed to further the safety of the town, the crooked bridge. At the same time, Elba Mayor James Grimes lit the first candle for the event.

The 2002 all-stars were then introduced and a brief summary of why they were nominated as an all-star was presented.

The all-stars honored during the event included: Ralph Bradley, Ellen Briley, Charlotte Clark, Farris and Heddy Cox, Dr. Lance K. Dyess, Eddie Kelley, Lisa Ormes, Denise Sauls and Sara Sharpless.

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The 2002 all-stars

EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS
With Ferrin Cox

Last week our comments on the highway public hearing were a bit misleading . . . that means they were wrong. While the map and the description refer to Highway 87 (Samson Highway), Division Engineer Ronnie Baldwin explained this week that the 4-lane highway will actually turn off the existing U.S. 84 just East of Brinson Trailer Park, as announced earlier. The route across Pea River to join the Western part of the 4-lane is still unsettled due to paperwork with FEMA on several flood buy-out properties in Riverview, but it will still go along a Northern route, Baldwin said. Anyway, the hearing on the section out to the Shiloh area will be on Tuesday, December 10th and interested persons can get the straight skinny by attending the 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. informal meeting at the New Brockton Farm Center.

While our mind is on highways, jump up to Highway 331, which runs from Montgomery to the Florida line at Flora. It is in the process of becoming a 4-lane highway also. Recent rumors have the highway leaving Brantley down Highway 141 to Curtis and then on to Opp on the new U.S. 84 side. Our above named statement that "Our plans are for Highway 331 to go from Brantley to Opp if it does today." He added that there is absolutely no discussion of changing the route to come down 141 to Curtis.

State Representative Alvin Holmes isn't going to let the new governor off any lighter than he has previous sitting heads of state. This week he reportedly issued an ultimatum to the new administration dealing with the fact that Bob Riley will take office on the Martin L. King holiday. Mr. Holmes wants a civil rights float in the parade and time to honor a couple of civil rights icons. We don't know who says yes or no on floats, but we would say "come on down," knowing it would be tastefully done. As far as the three minutes of speaking, we would ignore that. This particular celebration is political. Great leaders should always be remembered and saluted; they need their own special gatherings to honor their good works . . . not three minutes tacked on as afterthoughts.

LATE DEATH NOTICE

D.W. Cordle

D.W. Cordle age 92 of Elba, Ala. died December 2, 2002 in the Elba Nursing Home. Funeral services will be held (today) Thursday, December 5, 2002 at 2:00 p.m. with Rev. Cecil Cordle and Rev. David Sims officiating. The burial will follow in the Old Tabernacle Church Cemetery, New Brockton, Ala. The visitation

was held Wednesday, December 4, 2002 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Hayes Funeral Home. Survivors include son, Hinton Lindsey, Jack, Ala.; daughter, Vonicle Hicks, Seale, Ala.; brother, Robert D. Cordle, Defuniak Springs, Fla.; 11 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren, and three great great-grandchildren.

ELBA GENERAL HOSPITAL REPORT

Elba General Hospital had the following patients admitted during the time period of November 25, 2002, through December 1, 2002. They were: James Marshall, Linda Ayers, Rosa Tyson, Jimmie Duncan, Eddie Eddins, Carolyn Lawrence, Michael Fuller, Rita Sondergard, Mattie Graham, Dewese Falls, Betty Spurlin, Edith Calhoun, Annie Griffin, Matthew Winters, Robert Whatley, Amber Geddings and Myrtice Guy.

Persons discharged during the same time period were: Mary Lindsey, Charles Cole, Billy Killingsworth, Luis Hooks, Justice Marshall, Jimmie Duncan, Linda Ayers, Rosa Lee Tyson, Michael Fuller, Eddie Eddins, Matthew Winters, Edith Calhoun, Carolyn Lawrence, Annie Griffin, Rita Sondergard, Betty Spurlin and Amber Geddings.

Give the Gift of Health For Christmas
Get a Gift Certificate to Mike's Gym

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No Registration Fee
Monthly Membership for Senior Citizens
Students only \$20.00 per Month

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Offer Good Thru December 24, 2002
Call 897-3259 between the Hours of
4:30 - 7:00 pm, Mon., Tues. & Thurs.
4:30 - 6:00 pm on Friday

The Elba Clipper

USPS 171-080
is published every Thursday by The Elba Clipper,
417 W. Buford St., Elba, Alabama 36323
Publication Postage paid at Elba, Alabama 36323

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TELEPHONE (334) 897-2823 or fax (334) 897-3434
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Heddy J. Cox - BUSINESS MANAGER

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
County & Surrounding Counties - \$17 per year
6 months - \$9, including city & state tax
Alabama Counties - \$15 per year - including tax
6 months - \$10
Outside Alabama - \$21 per year - 6 months - \$11

Changes in store for Alabama Congressional Delegationby Congressman Terry Everett
(202) 225-2901

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The Second Congressional District grew to incorporate Elmore and Autauga counties while losing portions of west Montgomery county and was also a time of transition, as three of Alabama's seven Members of Congress departed Washington.

The 2000 census has reflected more growth in Alabama's population and thus created the need to redraw Alabama's congressional districts. As a result of this, the new congressional delegation in Washington will undergo changes not seen in a decade. New faces will appear and congressional district lines will shift. These changes will have a direct impact on Southeast Alabama.

Ten years ago, Alabama's seven congressional districts each roughly containing 600,000 people underwent remapping as mandated by the 1990 census and the U.S. Justice Department's requirement of the creation of a minority district in the state.

The Second Congressional

district was affected by a new set of district lines.

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Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, beginning Monday, Nov. 25, 2002, investigated the following incidents: one theft of property, one for violation of the seat belt law, one for attempting to elude, one for running a red light and one for damage to property.

Daily active highlights for the week were as follows:

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25
River stage - 6.41 feet (6:26 a.m.); Minor two-vehicle accident reported at Eraser's Corner (1:40 p.m.); Routine activity.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26
River stage - 6.33 feet (6:26 a.m.); Minor accident reported at Elba General Hospital near the emergency room (9:59 a.m.); Routine activity.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27
River stage - 6.28 feet (6:30 a.m.); Loud and excessive noise reported on Caroline St. (10:27 p.m.).

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28
River stage - 6.22 feet (6:10 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dis-

patched to an accident (vehicle vs. pedestrian) on County Rd. 231 (5:58 p.m.).

for driving with a suspended driver's license, five for no proof of insurance, one for violation of the seat belt law, one for attempting to elude, one for running a red light and one for damage to property.

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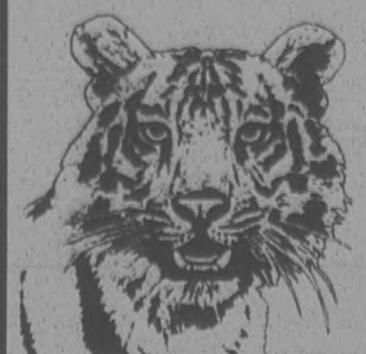
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1
Coffee County EMS dispatched on an accident on County Rd. 228 (2:52 a.m.); River stage - 6.12 feet (7:08 a.m.); Prowler reported on Smith Ave. (3:50 p.m.); Burglary reported at 2100 County Rd. 400 (6:29 p.m.).

MONDAY, DECEMBER 2
River stage - 6.08 feet (6:31 a.m.); Alarm activated at 2557 Taylor Mill Rd. (7:12 a.m.); Alarm activated at Kelly's Bar-B-Que (9:28 a.m.); Routine activity.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3
River stage - 6.03 feet (6:26 a.m.); Minor accident reported at Elba General Hospital near the emergency room (9:59 a.m.); Routine activity.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4
River stage - 6.02 feet (6:26 a.m.); Minor accident reported on Caroline St. (10:

SCHOOLS



Tiger Tales

Editor:
Sheena Flowers

Co-Op Spotlight

by Shawna Hill

The week's spotlight focuses on senior Samantha Williams. She is the 17-year-old daughter of Sharon and Steve Williams.

Samantha works at Roger's Beauty Shop and is a member of the Rocky Head Missionary Baptist Church. She is involved in numerous activities at EHS such as varsity softball, dance, Sr. Beta, VICA, NHS, Chorus and Mu Alpha Theta. In her spare time, Miss Williams likes to sing, dance and hang out with friends.

Congratulations to Samantha!

EHS band begins concert season

by Kimberly Farris

Marching band has ended, and the Elba High School Band is preparing for its annual Christmas Concert which is scheduled to be held Tuesday, Dec. 10.

The band officially began the concert season the week after the last football game. This year, Mr. Jeff Ellis, band director, decided to start the season by holding chair try-outs. Each student was given the opportunity

Elba Elementary School library holds open house

On Nov. 4 an open house was held at the E.E. Library for parents and students. On this evening, 28 guests visited the library and enjoyed a time for leisure reading. Many parents and grand parents read to and with their children and then assisted them in taking Accelerated Reading tests. Many parents expressed their gratitude for being able to see what it was like to take an AR test so they would know in the future what was expected of the children. Several teachers took time to come to the open house and assist parents. Door prizes were given and sponsored by Cook Chevrolet.

Enrichment classes write Letters to the Editor

by Sheena Flowers

During the week of Nov. 18, Mrs. Calhoun, the Elba High School librarian and media specialist, had her enrichment classes (seventh grade) to write letters to the editor (me). Their

PIC OF THE WEEK (by Katie Driggers) ...Of all the times Kaci has dyed her hair, it's finally caught up with her.

THE FOUR WAY TEST

of the things we Think, Say or Do

- First - Is it the TRUTH?
- Second - Is it FAIR to all concerned?
- Third - Will it build GOOD WILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
- Fourth - Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

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EHS Ambassadors speak to Elba Rotary Club members

On Nov. 19, 2Mrs. Weeks and four of her EHS Ambassadors attended the Rotary Club as their meeting's guest speakers. After a wonderful luncheon, Mrs. Weeks introduced the four students she brought with her (Trent Farris, Sheena Flowers, Courtney Pelham and Kristy Ward), and these students gave a brief speech about Ambassadors.

They told of the qualifications necessary to become an ambassador, the satisfaction received from the experience, and a description of what an EHS Ambassador does. The students who attended the meeting did a very good job and were congratulated by the Rotary Club members for their fantastic dedication to their school and community.

The EHS Ambassadors would like to thank the Rotary Club for having them as guests.

Pictured from left to right: Sheena Flowers, Courtney Pelham, Kristy Ward, Trent Farris and Mrs. Lynn Weeks (sponsor).

EHS students support American Education Week

by Ayonna Proctor

Sixers of Elba High School participated in writing public service announcements to promote American Education Week. The students had to include how Elba High School has prepared them for their future lives after high school. Heather Hays, Shawna Hill, and Trent Farris were three seniors whose announcements were broadcast over the radio.

Hey! My name is Heather Hays. I am a twelfth grade student at Elba High School. This week is American Education Week and this year's theme is "Making Public Schools Great for Every Child". I would like to thank the administration, faculty, and staff of EHS. The Elba High Administration including Superintendent Danny Weeks, does

an excellent job providing a safe environment in which to learn. The theme of Elba High School is "Patriotism above and beyond their obligations". My education has allowed me to grow as an individual and find my direction in life. I am a Fisher girl and say, "We must see that every child has equal opportunities, not to become equal, but to become different to realize the unique potential he or she possess."

The faculty and staff of EHS have given me the opportunity and confidence to succeed. I am grateful for the opportunities and the freedoms that Elba High School offers to be anything I desire. Public Education provides students the opportunity for self-expression through the interaction among students, teachers and peers. This interaction helps to produce a well-rounded, well-disciplined person who understands the importance of an education. Please take the time this week to thank a teacher or administrator for their dedication to the students of Elba High School.

Basketball News

From Coach Weeks to the 7th and 8th boys basketball team: Congratulations to the seventh and eighth grade teams for their victories over Fleeta, Zion Chapel and New Brockton. Both teams have really worked hard this year and have really improved a great deal so far. (Picture not available for this group.)



From Coach Collins to ninth grade girls basketball team: Congratulations to the ninth grade girls basketball team for its 4-1 record so far. The team's latest victory was over Zion Chapel with a score 33-23. Fonda Thigpen and Ashleigh Waddell both scored 13 points to lead the Lady Tigers to victory. Also, a thanks to Yolanda Reynolds and Haleigh Duncan for all their help with managing the team.

EHS honors veterans with program

by Alex Benbow

The 2002 Veterans Program was filled with history about soldiers from Elba that fought in all of the major wars of the twentieth century. The EHS Concert Band played a number of patriotic songs commemorating the veterans from the Gulf War, Vietnam War, Korean War and World War II.

The program was opened by the EHS Concert Band playing America the Beautiful. Then Bart Barnes got up to give an opening speech for the ceremony. Next the flag was presented in a ceremony called Presenting the Flag. This was done by Jennifer Grissett and Ashton Grimes. They were dressed in their full Official FFA wear. The flag was presented with a certificate honoring all of the veterans from all the prior wars.

While Mallory Allen told the history behind the music Taps, played by Mr. Ellis our band director, Bart Barnes led the veterans down a table with artifacts. Bart said a few more words to conclude the ceremony. The veterans stayed down front after the ceremony for people to shake their hands, ask questions and take pictures.

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War. Charles Kennett was given a certificate honoring all of the World War II veterans. And last but not least Mr. Joseph Hidalgo was presented with a certificate honoring all of the veterans from all the prior wars.

While Mallory Allen told the history behind the music Taps, played by Mr. Ellis our band director, Bart Barnes led the veterans down a table with artifacts. Bart said a few more words to conclude the ceremony. The veterans stayed down front after the ceremony for people to shake their hands, ask questions and take pictures.

The EHS Concert Band then played the Star Spangled Banner.

THE ELBA CLIPPER • THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2002

SCHOOLS



ZC's FBLA members discuss fund raising options at meeting

Make A Difference Day will be the kickoff for a year-long project. Many items have been made and the part of the plan that will be implemented on Make A Difference Day is a Multiplication Scavenger Hunt Prize have been bought, refreshments have been purchased, clues have been established, and math problems have been duplicated under the leadership of Committee Chairperson Anna Miller.

Mrs. Rita Johnston, from A-Sales, began a fund-raising program that will be conducted for two weeks following the meeting date. The money raised by FBLA members will be used to finance FBLA trips to Region and State Meetings and community service projects.



First Nine Weeks Honor Roll

All A Honor Roll

Grade 6
Kristen Carol Collins
Victoria Anne Fortuna
Chelsey Marie Freeman
Amber LaShae Grissett
Jamie Michele Hall
Ethan Coley Mount
Cregg Casey Rushing
Ciara Leanne Smith
Kyle Ray Tankersley
Grade 7
Brittany Elise Dismukes
Jon Stephen Fuller
Sheena Marie Hussey
Brittany Joanna Layton
Ava Tindol Long
Grade 8
Erica Danielle Lewis
Jennifer Lynn Taylor
Stephen Matthew Williams
Grade 9
Joshua Abel Childs
Courtney Brooke Dykes
Christopher Brett Fuller
Lindsay Diane Leverett
Dale Patrick Stinson, Jr.
Grade 10
Joshua Byron Smith
Grade 12
Nicolette Dawn Paiz
Ashley Brooke Wambles
All A and B Honor Roll
Grade 6
Lindsey Leigh Amlong
Carol Ann Banks
Christopher Galvin Carnley
Matthew Cory Carter
Carlin Diane Grissett
Andrew Stewart Little
Tracy Lorne Long
Morgan Wayne Mutual
Cristen Lea Patterson
Steven Andrew Petty
Brittany Rae Keehlman
Cassie Jo Lang
Roxanne Lee Thrash
Leanna Jordan Vinson
Justin Clay Winters
Grade 7
Brittany Nicole Cardwell
Jessica Marie Carroll
Cassandra Marie Cole

Kayla LeDean Crook
Laurens Karen Franklin
Courtney Melissa Grant
John Wayne Lambert
Gage William Nalley
Luther Dean Peters
Rodney David Ross Pittman
Kathy Nicole Register
Clinton Luther Rhodes
Roderick Leon Rider Jr
Jonas Griswold Simmons
Victoria Brook Stinson
Rebecca Danielle Thompson
Travis Hunter Walden
Caitlin Noel White
Harry James White
Grade 8
Adam Lee Carter
Joshua Todd Grant
Rodney Eric Kinnard
Epsie Grace Long
Grade 9
Lashonda Shonta Cole
Jacquelyn Michelle Cowart
Donna Lee Flowers
Keri Lin Flowers
Jeffery Allen Hobart
Keri Lynn Hobbs
Rosanna Johnson
Brittany Shae Manning
Byron McWaters
Melanie Christine Perry
Haley Diane Wambles
Grade 10
Meta Gathin
Roy King
Kristen Renae McLendon
Austin Kyle Smith
Jonathan Michael Sneed
Grade 11
Jason Lee Danley
Anna Catherine Miller
Joshua Dean Richards
Brittany Niele Thompson
Grade 12
Tracy Nicole Banks
Kali Nicole Bundrick
Samuel Perry Caithen
Jonah Lyn Edmondson
Adam Russell Farrelloth
Kimberly Gayle McClain
Amanda Jean Perry
James Jedediah Simmons
Ronnie Luke Smith

Jr. Beta officers include: Logan Carnley, Erica Lewis, Kelley Quattlebaum, Jonas Simmons, Jon Fuller and Stacy Williams.

ZC Jr. Beta Club elects officers

Inspirational Leader Stacy Williams. The members of the Executive Committee are Kelly Quattlebaum, Logan Carnley, and Jonas Simmons.

This is the club whose former members published a cookbook with local recipes called COOKIN' WITH JACK.

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The Zion Chapel community was represented well during the 15th Annual Elba Christmas Parade last Saturday, Nov. 30, in Elba.

Each year, the Zion Chapel Rebel Band and the Zion Chapel beauty queens participate in the parade and do a wonderful job in representing their community. As the queens travel by float through the streets of Elba and wave to the onlookers, the band marches and entertains the crowd with Christmas carols.

This year, the Zion Chapel participants helped to make the Christmas parade one of the largest Elba has ever held.

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SPORTS

Views from.... THE PRESSBOX

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

Sometimes I think our dog enjoys Thanksgiving dinner more than the family! Last week the Mularz family sat down at home to a big Thanksgiving dinner that included a turkey and all the trimmings. Well, the dog got to eat first since he got the bones after Dad had carved the bird, and he also ate last over the weekend as he got all the leftovers. I know it isn't good to feed leftovers to animals, but after taking a look at the dog's belly late Saturday night it was easy to see he enjoyed the feast.

SORTING THROUGH THE SPORTS NEWS...

*** The Elba Tiger basketball team will finally hit the court this week for a trio of games against some of its biggest rivals. The Tigers opened the season on Tuesday over in Opp, and then will host Enterprise on Thursday and travel over to New Brockton on Saturday. Elba has been highly successful over the past two years and will have to be ready this season each and every night it takes the court as many of its victims in years past try to gain a measure of revenge. The guess here is that it may take the Tigers a few games to work out the kinks, but after that look for the Tigers to continue their winning ways and get ready for another exciting season.

*** The Elba Lady Tigers lost their opener in last week's New Brockton Thanksgiving Tournament, but played well on both ends of the court against a talented team from G.W. Long and appear ready for another winning season. The Lady Tigers have a trio of ball-handlers and outside shooters that could play for just about any team around, and once they get settled inside they should be just as strong in the paint. I know the number of players is down and the schedule is tough, but something tells me these girls will grab more than share of wins as the season rolls along.

*** Kinston High School hosted its annual Thanksgiving Tournament last week with the Samson Tigers and the Kinston Lady Bulldogs taking home the tourney titles. Samson had to settle all four quarters against both Luverne and Georgiana to claim its crown, while the Lady Bulldogs surprised Georgiana and Arinton to keep the girls crown at home. The Kinston tournament may not feature many of the top teams in the area, but it does include teams that need early-season games and has quickly become one of the most competitive events around.

*** The New Brockton Thanksgiving Tournament included four games a day for three days and once again filled the gym for all three days of action. The tourney was started years ago and was co-sponsored by New Brockton and Kinston, but over the years the two county schools split and each went its own way. This year's tournament in New Brockton was fun to watch and was well received by all the teams in attendance.

*** I watched the Alabama win over Hawaii last weekend and can say without a doubt that if I was a college coach I would have to pass on a trip to the Islands. Hawaii changed sides of the field to let the Alabama players stay in the hot sun as long as possible, and Coach Jim Jones whined about every call the entire game and left little doubt that he was used to getting the calls at his field. A couple of calls against the Crimson Tide were a little questionable, while Hawaii was flagged only once or twice the entire game, despite what appeared to be a habit of holding Bama's defensive linemen. If all the Alabama officials wanted was a chance to let the players take a good trip, why not take them to New York and let 'em line up against Rutgers. That would be a vacation on and off the field!

*** A newspaper article about Ronald McKinney crossed my desk last week and the theme of the article was McKinney's love of older cars. McKinney stated that a 1975 Impala was his "show car," while a 1938 Packard was his "Sunday car." The Arizona Cardinal linebacker, and Elba High alum, also said that while new cars were nice, he preferred the "older cars with basic straight engines that you can fix a lot easier." I see Ronald almost every time he makes it back to Alabama, but I have yet to see him drive anything but a new sports utility vehicle filled with those new computer gadgets he dislikes so much.

*** In closing...the high school football championships will be held this week in Birmingham, and for anyone that has never made a trip to the Super Six, I would highly recommend the event. I went last year to the 5A finals and will admit that even though I didn't know much about either team it was quite an experience. Oh yeah, Ye Ole Polish Prognosticator dropped by over the weekend still munching on a drum stick and smiled when this week's picks were his final predictions of the season. The local guesser hit on 9 of 12 picks last week to move his yearly total to 360-76, and here are his picks this week at the state finals... (1A) Clay County 14 - Autauga Valley 7, (2A) Southern Choctaw 22 Lineville 16, (3A) Colbert County 17 T.R. Miller 14, (4A) UMS-Wright 10 North Jackson 8, (5A) Homewood 33 Russellville 31, (6A) Hoover 24 Jeff Davis 14.

GOOD LUCK TO ALL THE TEAMS THAT HAVE MADE THE CHAMPIONSHIP ROUND!

At New Brockton tournament

Elba Lady Tigers drop season opener 42-41

The Elba Lady Tigers tipped off their basketball season last week in the New Brockton Thanksgiving Tournament and made an early exit after being defeated by the G.W. Long Lady Rebels 42-41, opening round action.

The loss left the Lady Tigers with an 0-1 record, while the Lady Rebels improved to 3-0.

G.W. Long came out looking to shoot the three-pointer and did just that as the Lady Rebels connected on a pair of early bombs from behind the arc to grab a 6-0 lead with 5:31 remaining in the opening stanza. Elba cut the lead to 6-2 with 5:16 left in the stanza, on a jumper by Shay Thigpen, only to see the Lady Rebels connect again from long distance as G.W. Long opened up a 9-2 advantage with 4:54 remaining.

Elba's Ayonna Proctor and Ashley Gibson hit on three free-throws midway through the quarter as the Lady Tigers pulled within 9-5, but G.W. Long hit its fourth three-pointer of the opening quarter with :49 left and at the end of the stanza the Lady Tigers found themselves on the short end of a 12-7 score.

The Lady Rebels opened the second quarter with another long three-pointer to up their lead to 15-7, but this time Elba's LaGina Mack answered with a bucket from behind the arc, and after baskets by Mack and Shawna Hill, the Lady Tigers were within 17-14 with 5:46 left in the half.

G.W. Long connected on two three-pointers to regain command at 23-14 with 2:38 remaining and then added its eighth three-pointer of the half with 1:14 on the clock to take its biggest lead of the night at 26-16. The Lady Tigers were down big, but brought the Elba fans to their feet in the closing minute as Ayonna Proctor drilled two long three-pointers over a span of only 23-seconds as the Lady Tigers pulled within 26-22 at the half.

Elba closed to within 28-25 with 6:58 remaining in the third quarter on a three-pointer by Shay Thigpen. However, the Lady Tigers failed to score again for almost three-minutes

G.W. Long ended its five-minute scoring drought with a back-to-back three-pointers on a three-pointer by Shay Thigpen early in the fourth quarter helped the Lady Tigers pull within 35-33, and when Danica Ware scored her way to a basket with 6:49 left Elba had capped off a 10-0 run and had caught the Lady Rebels 10-0. The Lady Rebels' Ashley Wright connected on both free-throw chances to put G.W. Long

back on top 42-41, and when a last-second shot from half court missed its mark, the Lady Rebels had the wild win.

Ayonna Proctor and Shay Thigpen both scored 12 points to lead Elba, while Vicki Windham scored 15 points on five three-pointers to lead G.W. Long and Ashley Wright added 13.

L. 12 14 9 7 - 42
E. 7 15 8 11 - 41

G.W. Long (22). S. Newman 12, Wright 13. Windham 15, A. Newman 2.
Elba (41). Proctor 12, Thigpen 12, Mack 8, Hill 2, Ware 5, Gibson 2.

ELBA TIGERS
2002-2003 BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent	Site	Time
Dec. 5	Enterprise	Home	4:30
Dec. 7	New Brockton	Away	4:30
Dec. 10	Samson	Away	4:30
Dec. 12	Brantley (VG)	Home	5:00
Dec. 14-12	Andalusia Tournament	Andalusia	
Dec. 17	Zion Chapel	Home	4:30
Dec. 19-20	Z.C. Tournament (VG)	Zion Chapel	
Dec. 19	Brantley Home (VB)	6:00	
Dec. 26-30	Dothan Progress	Dothan TBA	
Jan. 3	Georgiana	Away	5:00
Jan. 7	Enterprise	Away	6:00
Jan. 10	Abbeville	GWCC	5:00
Jan. 14	New Brockton	Home	4:30
Jan. 16	Straughn	Away	4:30
Jan. 17	Luverne	Home	4:30
Jan. 21	Straughn	Home	4:30
Jan. 24	Abbeville	Home	5:00
Jan. 27	Georgiana	Home	4:30
Jan. 28	Zion Chapel	Away	4:30
Jan. 31	Opp	Home	4:30
Feb. 4	Luverne	Away	4:30

(B GAMES START AT 4:30)

Applications now being evaluated for 2003 Ten Star Summer basketball camps

Applications are now being evaluated for the Ten Star All-Star Summer Basketball Camps. The camps are by invitation only and are for boys and girls ages 10-19. Participants include Michael Jordan, Tim Duncan, Vince Carter, Jerry Stackhouse, Grant Hill and

Antawn Jamison. Players from fifty states and eight foreign countries attended the 2002 camps. Area camp locations include Atlanta, Georgia; Babson Park, Florida; Hickory, North Carolina, and Lebanon, Tennessee. For a free brochure call 704-373-0873.

HIGH SCHOOL
BASKETBALL CALENDAR

Thursday, December 5
Enterprise at Elba (4:30) B-VG-VB

Saturday, December 7
Elba at New Brockton (4:30) B-VG-VB

Tuesday, December 10
Elba at Samson (4:30) B-VG-VB

Zion Chapel vs. New Brockton (4:30) B-VG-VB

Wednesday, December 11
Elba at Samson (4:30) B-VG-VB

Zion Chapel vs. New Brockton (4:30) B-VG-VB

Friday, December 12
Elba at Samson (4:30) B-VG-VB

Zion Chapel vs. New Brockton (4:30) B-VG-VB

Saturday, December 13
Elba at Samson (4:30) B-VG-VB

Zion Chapel vs. New Brockton (4:30) B-VG-VB

Sunday, December 14
Elba at Samson (4:30) B-VG-VB

Zion Chapel vs. New Brockton (4:30) B-VG-VB

Monday, December 15
Elba at Samson (4:30) B-VG-VB

Zion Chapel vs. New Brockton (4:30) B-VG-VB

Tuesday, December 16
Elba at Samson (4:30) B-VG-VB

Zion Chapel vs. New Brockton (4:30) B-VG-VB

Wednesday, December 17
Elba at Samson (4:30) B-VG-VB

Zion Chapel vs. New Brockton (4:30) B-VG-VB

Thursday, December 18
Elba at Samson (4:30) B-VG-VB

Zion Chapel vs. New Brockton (4:30) B-VG-VB

Friday, December 19
Elba at Samson (4:30) B-VG-VB

Zion Chapel vs. New Brockton (4:30) B-VG-VB

Saturday, December 20
Elba at Samson (4:30) B-VG-VB

Zion Chapel vs. New Brockton (4:30) B-VG-VB

Sunday, December 21
Elba at Samson (4:30) B-VG-VB

Zion Chapel vs. New Brockton (4:30) B-VG-VB

Monday, December 22
Elba at Samson (4:30) B-VG-VB

Zion Chapel vs. New Brockton (4:30) B-VG-VB

Tuesday, December 23
Elba at Samson (4:30) B-VG-VB

Zion Chapel vs. New Brockton (4:30) B-VG-VB

Wednesday, December 24
Elba at Samson (4:30) B-VG-VB

Zion Chapel vs. New Brockton (4:30) B-VG-VB

Thursday, December 25
Elba at Samson (4:30) B-VG-VB

Zion Chapel vs. New Brockton (4:30) B-VG-VB

Friday, December 26
Elba at Samson (4:30) B-VG-VB

Zion Chapel vs. New Brockton (4:30) B-VG-VB

Saturday, December 27
Elba at Samson (4:30) B-VG-VB

Zion Chapel vs. New Brockton (4:30) B-VG-VB

Sunday, December 28
Elba at Samson (4:30) B-VG-VB

Zion Chapel vs. New Brockton (4:30) B-VG-VB

Monday, December 29
Elba at Samson (4:30) B-VG-VB

Zion Chapel vs. New Brockton (4:30) B-VG-VB

Tuesday, December 30
Elba at Samson (4:30) B-VG-VB

Zion Chapel vs. New Brockton (4:30) B-VG-VB

Wednesday, December 31
Elba at Samson (4:30) B-VG-VB

Zion Chapel vs. New Brockton (4:30) B-VG-VB

Thursday, January 1
Elba at Samson (4:30) B-VG-VB

Zion Chapel vs. New Brockton (4:30) B-VG-VB

Friday, January 2
Elba at Samson (4:30) B-VG-VB

Zion Chapel vs. New Brockton (4:30) B-VG-VB

Saturday, January 3
Elba at Samson (4:30) B-VG-VB

Zion Chapel vs. New Brockton (4:30) B-VG-VB

Sunday, January 4
Elba at Samson (4:30) B-VG-VB

Zion Chapel vs. New Brockton (4:30) B-VG-VB

Monday, January 5
Elba at Samson (4:30) B-VG-VB

Zion Chapel vs. New Brockton (4:30) B-VG-VB

Tuesday, January 6
Elba at Samson (4:30) B-VG-VB

Zion Chapel vs. New Brockton (4:30) B-VG-VB

Wednesday, January 7
Elba at Samson (4:30) B-VG-VB

Zion Chapel vs. New Brockton (4:30) B-VG-VB

Thursday, January 8
Elba at Samson (4:30) B-VG-VB

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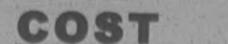
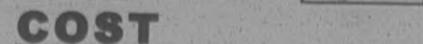
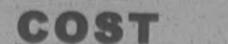
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RENT

ABSOLUTE AUCTION Saturday, December 7, 10:00 a.m. Inventory reduction, furniture, TV & appliance rental. Complete Brewster Farms in Monroeville, AL. Mickey Fowler ALSL466. Fowler Auction 1-256-420-4454.

AUCTION: SATURDAY, December 14, 9:00 a.m. Complete liquidation of business, 92 acre +/- vacant lot & machine shop equipment. Lodge Road in Huntsville, Mickey Fowler ALSL466. Fowler Auction 1-256-420-4454.

GIGANTIC 2-DAY Auction: December 6 & 7, 2002, Montgomery, AL *9:00 AM. Crates, pallets & trailers, motor graders, scrapers, excavators, backhoes, dump skidders, feller bunchers, log loaders, farm tractors, etc. Call 1-800-224-9650.

AUCTION: THURSDAY, Dec. 12, 10 a.m. - Yard #1, Cottonwood building, 92 acre +/- vacant lot & machine shop equipment. Lodge Road in Huntsville, Mickey Fowler ALSL466. Fowler Auction 1-256-420-4454.

PUBLIC NOTICE Auction at two locations in Alabama. Liquidation Sale Yard #1 - Mobile home Friday, Dec. 13, 10 a.m. - Yard #2 - Boats * Travel Trailers * ATVs * Car * Trucks * and the list goes on. Sat., Dec. 14, 9:00 a.m. - Tuscaloosa, AL *Info 1-205-758- 0068. Auctioneer J. Michael Langford #28, Brum Woodland #1718. www.seauction.com,

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1992 CHEV CAVALIER - 4 door - AT-4 - great on gas - only \$1,295⁰⁰

1993 CHEVY BLAZER - 5 speed - V6 - must see - only \$2,695⁰⁰

1992 CHRYSLER NEW YORKER - sharp - very clean AT-6 - only \$1,995⁰⁰

1996 TOYOTA CAMRY SE - AT-4 - only \$6,395⁰⁰

1991 CHEV BLAZER - check it out - priced at only - \$2,995⁰⁰

1999 BUICK REGAL LS - leather - loaded - extra clean - great buy - \$8,195⁰⁰

1990 PONTIAC BONNEVILLE - AT-6 - only \$1,895⁰⁰

1990 FORD BRONCO - Eddie Bauer - sharp - great truck for the hunter \$6,195⁰⁰

1996 NISSAN ALTAMA - AT-4 - great for gas mileage - only \$2,895⁰⁰

1994 CHEV BLAZER LT - loaded - AT-6 - only \$3,395⁰⁰

1993 BUICK LE SABRE - custom - clean - must see - only \$3,495⁰⁰

2002 VW BEETLE - AT - leather - sunroof only 14,000 miles - like new - only \$15,595⁰⁰

2001 CAMRY LE - sharp car - only 31,000 miles - was \$13,995⁰⁰ now \$12,995⁰⁰

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The Elba Clipper

Volume 106, Number 26 50 Cents Elba, Alabama Thursday, December 12, 2002 1 Section, 16 Pages Plus 3 Adv. Inserts

City of Elba passes ordinance controlling the legal sale of alcoholic beverages

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The Elba City Council took a hasty step Monday evening to comply with the wishes of a majority of Elba voters when it rescinded the local ordinance that bans the sale of alcohol in the City of Elba.

At the same meeting the council adopted an extensive ordinance allowing the sale of alcohol at the same time regulating the sale of off-premises beverages.

The new ordinance sets guidelines to control both on-premise and off-premises sales. The cost of business licenses for anyone wanting to sell alcohol is spelled out in this new ordinance.

Mayor James Grimes said he and the City Attorney reviewed similar ordinances from several towns and tried to pick the better parts from each city's ordinance.

Alcoholic beverages sold for off-premises consumption must

be contained in a bag in order to conceal the bottles, cans, carton or container.

There is a section in the new ordinance which prohibits nudging in establishments dealing in alcoholic beverages.

Monthly bills totaling \$20,751.20 were approved for payment. This included \$2,532.64 for election supplies on the wet-dry election \$1,874.47 on vehicle and equipment repair; \$495.51 for asphalt mix; \$7,857.30 for two police car cameras and \$895.00 for a police car radar.

Police Chief R. W. Whitworth reported that Dispatcher June Harrison is retiring.

City Clerk Wayne Grantham told council members that the street resurfacing project in Monroe Village is on schedule, in spite of the rainy weather.

A HEARING ON U. S. HIGHWAY 84 WIDENING was held Tuesday evening at the New Brockton Farm Center. The section under consideration this time is the area along 84 East, from Elba through the Shiloh community.

ABAMA DOT officials told interested property owners Tuesday night they couldn't project them an actual date for buying of their homes, but a safe guess would be late in 2003 or early 2004 for actually purchasing of real estate on this section of the 4-lane project. A lot of the timing could depend on problems that might crop up in this hearing and the availability of the necessary funding.

Humanity builds the dream of one Elba family

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Christmas is just around the corner, and it seemed only fitting Sunday, Dec. 8, that Habitat for Humanity of Coffee County held a dedication ceremony in honor of the Olean Smith Family home.

Construction has been underway for nearly a year, but Sunday afternoon outside the recently finished home Smith received one of the biggest Christmas presents she had ever gotten: the keys to her new home. This presentation came just one day shy of the one-year anniversary of the groundbreaking ceremony.

"Habitat for Humanity International has set before us a vision and a model to bring hope to others," Cotter said. "In spite of difficulties, we kept before us this vision that has

been completed in the home today."

To be successful in their mission, Habitat for Humanity board members will rely strongly on the community for donations of money and labor. On Sunday, these board members had nothing but praise for those who have helped make the dream of the Olean Smith home become a reality.

Cotter especially thanked those to the City of Elba for their help with the process.

"Because of your commitment, this family is given a hope for the future in a new way," Inman said. "Thank you for that hope!"

The Olean Smith home became the second home to be completed and dedicated Sunday by Habitat for Humanity of Coffee County. The first home was completed in Enterprise, and the board plans to continue its goal of

eliminating sub-standard housing in the area.

However, each member wanted to take a few minutes Sunday to enjoy the happiness brought by the completion of the Smith home.

"We are grateful for the opportunity to be a part of this home, a gift from God," said board member Daniel Stephens.

After all, the mission of Habitat for Humanity of Coffee County is to build and renovate houses so there are decent homes in decent communities in which people can live and grow into all that God intended.

"You all have made me so happy," Smith said after receiving the keys to her home. "I'm so nervous right now and so blessed!!"

Local colleges set for mergers

Alabama College System Chancellor Roy W. Johnson is initiating a process that will merge Lurleen B. Wallace Junior College with MacArthur State Technical College and Enterprise State Junior College with the Ozark campus of Wallace Community College-Dothan.

The mergers will form Lurleen B. Wallace Community College and Enterprise-Ozark Community College, providing comprehensive community colleges that will be focal points for meeting the needs of students, businesses and industry. The mergers will consist of administrative consolidations to be followed by programmatic consolidations. The mergers will eliminate junior colleges from The Alabama College System, leaving only comprehensive community colleges and technical colleges.

"These mergers will result in three comprehensive community

The process of the two mergers

Please See MERGE, Page 3



Several Habitat for Humanity of Coffee County board members were on hand Sunday, Dec. 15, when Olean Smith received the keys to her new home. She is the second Coffey County recipient of a Habitat home. Those pictured (left to right): Beverly Inman, Rev. John Belcher, Jim Nichols, Billy Cotter, Olean Smith, Daniel Stephens and Helen Crittenden.

Smith said her department spent over 20 hours last weekend cleaning the sewage drainage at the jail. He said this problem cost the county several dollars in employee overtime pay and cleaning materials.

He said he doesn't know how the persons will be caught, but something needs to be done or that will continue to happen.

In a bit of good news, Commissioner Linda Westbrook announced that the county has received word that it will receive a grant to pave Coffee County Rd. 359.

County engineer Randy Tindell confirmed this and said Monday that he expects something in writing in the next few days.

However, in anticipation of the grant monies, Tindell requested the commission approve a resolution authorizing the chairman to enter into agreement with Alabama Department of Transportation to allow the paving of County Rd. 359.

Westbrook made the motion to that effect with a second from Commissioner Ernest Brooks, and it passed by a unanimous vote.

Tindell also requested a resolution be approved to make County Rd. 359 a priority on the list of county roads to be paved contingent upon the 100 percent funding it will receive through the grant.

Westbrook made the motion for Tindell's request with a second from Commission chairman Robert Stephens, and it also passed by a unanimous vote.

Before moving on, Commissioner Jim Thompson confirmed with Tindell that he will have an additional crew working on other roads at the same time County Rd. 359 is being paved.

In other business, the commission:

"Approved a credit application at the county landfill for GM Roofing Inc. of Coffee Springs."

"Approved a motion to purchase an adjoining piece of property for the Senior Citizen Center in the Ito community. The motion was made by Stephens, and he said the people of the community will pay the county back for the purchase of the land."

The next meeting of the Coffee County Commission will be Monday, Dec. 23, at 9 a.m., in the community room of the county complex in New Brockton.

Area Happenings

Due to the Christmas holiday, the Elba Clipper will observe special deadlines for the Dec. 26 edition of the paper.

U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE'S FARM SERVICE AGENCY has announced that sign-ups for the Livestock Compensation Program (LCP) for cattle, sheep, goats, and buffalo producers will end on Friday, Dec. 13. The LCP is now available to livestock producers in all 67 counties. Eligible livestock producers should apply for LCP benefits at the local Farm Service Agency (FSA) office by the deadline date.

THE ELBA DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION and the Human Resource Development Commission are in need of new and used toys, clothes and other items that will be used as gifts for needy families in the 2002 Operation Santa Claus campaign. Families in Elba and the surrounding area have registered at the two agencies, and items are needed that would help make this Christmas a Merry Christmas for the less fortunate in the area. The public is encouraged to donate items that are still in working condition & can be repaired for a sound use. Items that are in good condition. Cash donations should be made to Operation Santa Claus and mailed to the Elba Department of Parks and Recreation, 200 Main Street, Elba, Alabama 36323. Please mail or drop off at 897-3130.

NOTICE

All Church and Social News will be due by 12 Noon on Friday, Dec. 20.

All other News and Advertising will be due by 5 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 20.

Early deadlines will also be observed for the Jan. 2 edition of the paper due to the New Year's holiday. These deadlines will be announced later.